TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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MANY THINGS ABOUT OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM

STAND IN NEED OF STUDY AND REVIEW

This newspaper leans to the opinion that amid all the concern about public schools in Virginia, the fact is being overlooked that perhaps the entire field of public education needs to be re-studied.

It could even be that worse things could happen than for the whole system to be closed down for a year, and our best minds be put to work on a review of the entire subject of operating schools.

Relatively speaking, public education is a new thing in Virginia. In most localities, public schools go back only to around 1870, or even later. Considering that the Colony of Virginia was founded in 1607, surely anything beginning as late as 1870, is relatively new. Add to that the fact that only in more recent decades have attempts been made at mass education in the public schools, it should not be unreasonable that stock-taking has merit.

The point has been advanced in some quarters, that it was a mistake to have no educators on the Gray Commission. Might it not also be advanced that there might be merit in having some citizens other than professional educators examine the methods, procedures and goals used in operating our schools?

There are some who might desire to re-examine the wisdom of compelling all children to attend school for twelve or more years, when in instances, the capacity to learn is absent or just unrewarding.

Might not there be merit in a study to bring about the assignment of pupils to sections and grades in keeping with their mental capacity? To mix backward and brilliant pupils in the same sections of the same grade may or may not be democratic, but assuredly it disconcerts the achievement of the teacher and causes many a bright pupil to lose all interest and incentive. The world cries out for the competent in all the fields of life. It is a costly human waste to hold back the talented and the promising student in a section of a grade where the teacher has a tremendous struggle to gain any advantage in the tussle to make the backward and the less brilliant pupils assimulate any knowledge whatsoever. This field should be studied, and others than professional educators should be on the commissions.

The great difference in the pay of teachers and the opportunities available in the schools in different localities is something else needing study. By and large, we believe that a boy or girl in any community or section of the state is entitled to educational opportunity equal to that of any other area. It simply does not seem right to us, that a teacher in one school should get half-again as much in the way of pay as a teacher in another school doing the same work. It is unfortunate and unfair that so many prospective teachers have to go away to some distant county or city in order to find opportunity for their careers. Nor do we believe that seniority should be the sole or the dominant basis for establishing a pay scale. Not even when adjusted to certificate standard. Performance in the classroom should be the controlling factor. Some teachers do their best work the first ten years in the profession. After that, they tend to lose their grip on the upper side of the see-saw. The best pay should go to the best teachers, under reasonable yardsticks as to what constitutes the "best" and with sufficient differential to provide incentive for remaining in the profession for a career.

And so we might continue into many aspects of the problem of instructing our youth. You have educated no one when you build a costly physical plant. You have educated no one when you provide a network of transportation facility. You have educated no one with the fancy dress of schooling, if you have neglected the Three R's and the simple fundamentals that must be forged on the hot anvil of experience and performance in the classroom. It should be a continuing order of the day, that ALL phases of education be reviewed at periodic intervals, by representatives of education, industry, and the economy and society in general. The schools as now constituted have wonderful claims to our support. But they are no "sacred cow."

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WHAT'S THIS

Wow! How about that Convention of Virginia Republicans held in Roanoke last week! No cut and dried affair, there! The delegates took their convention seriously and sought ways and means of revitalizing the Grand Old Party in Virginia. They came up with "new blood" in key spots of leadership, and rewarded a younger generation of party members.

This is the sort of thing long advocated to build up the Republican Party in the Old Dominion. The elder veterans of the party have great and solid convictions and are to be respected for their guardianship of the chores assigned them. But, in a number of spots, the party has come up with "new blood," with ambitious younger men who want to see the Republican Party built up in the state to service other than on national presidential election day every four years.

And perhaps the Democrats of Virginia are taking the hint, too. When the Democrats meet this week in Richmond, the party keynote speaker will be young Watkins M. Abbitt, the up-and-coming Fourth District Congressman. The Democrats, too, may be willing to pay heed to some of the younger voices, and having paid heed, to blend together a wise mixture of the experience of the elder veterans with the hopes and thinking of the younger and the middle generation.

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THE MAJOR PARTIES MUST BE NATIONAL IN MAKE-UP

The Times-Virginian, once it concedes that it is impossible for all of us to be of one mind in most anything, sees nothing wrong in the fact that there are vast differences in the Northern and the Southern Democrats. We see in that situation nothing to warrant either the Northern Democrats getting out and leaving what's left to the Southern Democrats; nor, for the Southern Democrats to get out of the party and hand the remnant over to the Northerners. What we do see in the situation is practical evidence that a great political party, to merit the right to run the Administration, should be NATIONAL. By that we mean that it must have at its council table representatives, in carefully chosen proportion, of all the major geographical sections, the groups and the viewpoints in the nation itself. Only in such fashion can we arrive at a great Administration for all the people. We would consider it a bad day, were the Democratic Party to cease to be a National Party; equally as bad were the Republican Party to come to represent only one viewpoint.

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A PROBLEM OF CHOICE

What would happen if the president-elect died before his term began? It is a question voters should ask themselves, preferably between election campaigns when something might be done about the situation.

The 20th amendment to the Constitution provides that if the death occurs after the meeting the the electoral college, the outmoded institution that still makes the election official, then the vice president-elect shall take over the office. In such a case, there is no problem.

If, however, the man whom the voters picked for president died before the electoral college met, the college would have the right to name anyone they chose. Probably the electors would be guided by the victorious party's national committee. But there would be at least a possibility that a man scarcely known to the electorate might become chief executive.

Fortunately, the nation's luck has been good; no such thing has happened. Still, it could happen that the president'elect's death might bring an unexpected choice into the White House. Perhaps this aspect of the electoral college system needs improvement. —Exchange.

Vera

Vera, July 23.- We are thankful for the nice rains and the pretty weather.

Week-end guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson were Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Beasley, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Webb, Mrs. Eva Hayden, and Harriette Hsrvey and Bonnie Webb.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Harvey visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman on Sunday.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey for the week-end were Mrs. Eva Hayden, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Harvey, of Richmond; Miss Merle Reynolds, Miss Patricia Alvis, Miss Marguerite Gilliam and Mr. Willie Gilliam, the latter of Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Harvey visited in the home of Mrs. Maude Abbitt on Sunday. Mrs. Abbitt accompanied them home for a visit.

We are glad that Mrs. Leslie Turnes, who has been sick, is feeling much better.

Mrs. Lester B. Harvey and Mrs. Jim Morris and son, of Harrisburg, Penn., visted in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey on Thursday.

Mrs. T. C. Harvey attended the James River Baptist Association at Gladstone on Thursday.

Mr. Jim Morris and son, of Harrisburg, Penn., visted in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey on Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey and Harriette visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Lewis on Sunday night.

We are glad to hear that Mrs. Sam Coleman is better.

GOLDEN GLEAMS

We cannot control the evil tongues of others, but a good life enables us to despite them. --Cato.

Self-respect is the noblest garment with which a man may clothe himself. --Smiles.

Each present joy or sorrow seems the chief - Shakespeare.

Men call fretting a minor fault, a foible and not a fault; but there is no vice, except drunkenness, which can so utterly destroy the peace and happiness of a home. -Helen Ba...

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Confused "Sit"-uation

Been meaning all week to tell you about Curley Lawson's "baby-sitting" experience.

His Mrs. left him in charge, about seven p.m., with instructions not to let the children come downstairs. So Curley read his paper and whenever he heard footsteps on the staircase he ordered the culprit back to bed. Happened three or four times.

Little while later, Mrs. Miller from next door came over to inquire if Curley had seen her Sonny. "Here I am, Mom" came a voice from upstairs, "But Mr. Lawson won't let me go home."

From where I sit, jumping to conclusions like Curley did, doesn't always make for an amusing story. I'm reminded of the people who—without due consideration—have concluded that I'm wrong to like an occasional glass of beer. Well, to my way of thinking, that's not only intolerant . . . but, what's more, "minding" the other fellow's business is not the American way.

Joe Marsh

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No. 73 of a Series . . .

Here Are At Least
16 GOOD REASONS
Why You Should Do Business in Appomattox

YES SIR, THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD DO BUSINESS IN APPOMATTOX . . . WHY IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE. BUT TODAY WE ARE LISTING JUST 16 OF THEM . . . AND THEY ARE THE 16 BUSINESS PLACES BRINGING YOU THIS MESSAGE. TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT THEY HAVE TO OFFER YOU . . .

1. **GARST & JAMERSON.** Popular buyer of wood, lumber, ties, etc. is one of the mainstays of this trade area, for it provides a fine market for forest products. Their yard at Appomattox is at your service and when you have timber to sell, it will pay you to consult Garst & Jamerson first.

2. **VIRGINIA NOVELTY CO.** This outstanding local pay-roll is an asset to our community and contributes prominently to the economic life of the area. Their management is actively interested in making Appomattox a Growing Town.

3. **MAUDE'S HOT SHOP.** This popular restaurant just west of town on Route 460 is known far and wide for its good food. Dinner parties and banquets are served. This restaurant does much to advertise Appomattox.

4. **J. E. JAMERSON & SONS.** This firm deals in building materials of all kinds and is one of Appomattox's buisest enterprises. They specialize in blocks, woodwork, paint, cements, and at present are engaged in several large building jobs.

5. **BANK OF APPOMATTOX.** Since 1901 this outstanding institution has been one of the main reasons for continued growth of Appomattox. Its services have grown with the community and its modern quarters have received wide acclaim.

6. **MOSES MOTOR COMPANY.** This is one of Virginia's oldest and finest automotive agencies. They have made Chevrolet and Oldsmobile popular in this area, and maintain a large stock of used cars and trucks, and a fine service department.

A Review . . .

7. **APPOMATTOX ESSO SERVICENTER.** "Boots" LeGrand is as fine a service station man as can be found anywhere. His friends are numbered in the hundreds in every direction, and his modern Esso station is always busy but not too busy to serve you.

8. **APPOMATTOX TELEPHONE CO.** One of the greatest things to happen to Appomattox in recent years has been the great expansion in telephone communication. New lines have gone out in every direction, and this fine firm is proud of its contribution to making Appomattox A Growing Town.

9. **RICHARD D. ROBINSON FUNERAL HOME AND AMBULANCE SERVICE.** The entire county is justly proud of the new and modern Funeral Home operated here by R. D. Robinson. The service is always considerate, thoughtful, and complete, and their modern ambulance is available day or night.

10. **PULLIAM MOTOR SALES.** One of the finest things about Appomattox is the service a farmer can get here, and Pulliam Motor Sales is well and favorably known throughout this area for its sales and service on tractors and all farm equipment. Call upon them often.

11. **APPOMATTOX HARDWARE CO., INC.** The growth and expansion of this firm has been a feature of the continued growth of Appomattox. Sales and service in a tremendous variety of lines makes a visit to their store a "must" on every trip to town.

12. **GRINELS MOTOR CO.** "Your Friendly Ford Dealer" certainly describes this popular dealership. Now in the process of building in a new location, Grinels Motor Company is winning new friends all the time and is a major factor in the business life of Appomattox.

13. **POE HARDWARE COMPANY.** Conveniently located, well-stocked and serving every need in the hardware line, Poe Hardware Company cerries many famous makes of appliances. You will find this a friendly place to visit every time you are in town.

14. **J. E. SEARS & CO., INC.** When you say: "Everything to Build Anything" you are taking in a lot of territory . . . but . . . J. E. Sears & Co. can back up this claim. For many years it has been one of Appomattox's largest firms, and is now moving rapidly to completion of a very large retail unit. The firm operates a large branch in Lynchburg.

15. **FARMERS NATIONAL BANK.** If there is anything of which Appomattox is justly proud it is of its banking service. The staff at the Farmers National Bank has a wonderful tradition for friendly service and this institution is always on the lookout for ways to help build up the community.

16. **COLEMAN'S FEED & SEED STORE.** W. Twyman Coleman and his staff have reason to be proud of their very large store along the railroad on Appomattox's Main St. . . . and Appomattox has every reason to be proud of the contribution this Southern States dealer makes to making ours "A Growing Town."

This Community Message Sponsored by the following "Growing With Appomattox" firms and institutions, as a public service

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Dial 3001

Garst & Jamerson
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Dial 2451

Appomattox Telephone Co.
Growing With and Serving the Appomattox Area

Grinels Motor Co.
Ford Sales & Service
Dial Appomattox 2121

Coleman's Feed & Seed Store
Your Southern States Dealer
Dial 3663 Appomattox, Va.

J. E. Jamerson & Sons
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